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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 01399 080854Z

15
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 PM-07 SPC-03 RSC-01 DRC-01 MMS-03

INR-10 PER-05 /069 W
---------- 032821
R 071642Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1232

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 1399

STADIS//

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, LI
SUBJECT: STRENGTH ADJUSTMENTS IN MILITARY MISSION

FOR AF ASST. SECRETARY EASUM FROM AMBASSADOR

1. YOU MAY HAVE SEEN MONROVIA 1382 WHICH IS A DELIBERATELY BLAND AND FUZZY RESPONSE TO A USCINCEUR TELEGRAM ON REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY MISSION HERE, SINCE I FELT SURE THAT MY MESSAGE WOULD BE PASSED AROUND. THIS IS ONLY ONE IN A SERIES OF TELEGRAMS FROM USCINCEUR AND OSD ON THE SAME SUBJECT. THEY RAISE IN MY MIND A REAL QUESTION OF POLICY AND PRINCIPLE; I.E. DESPITE THE RECENT SPATE OF TELEGRAMS ON THE CHANNELS TO BE USED FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO AMBASSADORS, DOD SEES FIT TO DIRECT FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE ROLES AND STAFFING OF AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF MY MISSION WITHOUT PREVIOUS REFERENCE TO THE DEPARTMENT OR TO ME. IN FACT, THERE APPEARS TO BE A NEW TWIST IN THAT THEY ASK THE CHIEF OF MAAG/MILITARY MISSION TO TRY TO GET THE AMBASSADOR ON BOARD BEFORE, APPARENTLY, THE PROPOSED REDUCTIONS ARE DISCUSSED AND AGREED TO ON A POLICY LEVEL WITH THE DEPARTMENT.

2. AT THIS DISTANCE I HAVE NO RPT NO WAY OF KNOWING TO WHAT EXTENT THERE HAS BEEN ADVANCE CONSULTATION AND AGREEMENT ON INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CHIEF OF THE MILITARY MISSION. I DO KNOW THAT SINCE WE TALK TO EACH OTHER A GREAT DEAL HERE AND TRY TO PERFORM AS A COORDINATED MISSION, IT IS POSTIVELY DIVISIVE TO HAVE TO FIELD
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INSTRUCTIONS TO AN ELEMEMNT OF THE MISSION WITHOUT A HINT FROM

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THE DEPARTMENT AS TO THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION. I WOULD HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT I WILL RECEIVE SUITABLE, PRECISE, INSTRUCTIONS IN RESPONSE TO MONROVIA 1382. WHAT WE WILL PROPOSE IN TERMS OF A STAFFING PATTERN WILL PROBABLY NOT CHANGE SINCE WE HAVE PUT A GOOD DEAL OF COLLECTIVE THOUGHT INTO IT. WHAT WILL CHANGE, I HOPE, IS THE NECESSITY TO RESPOND TO "DIRECTIVES" FROM ANOTHER AGENCY WITHOUT ANY EXPRESSION OF THE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS.
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